

# MONTHLY CROP REPORT ISSUED

GRAINS AND FRUIT YIELDS TO BE LIGHTER ACCORDING TO PRESENT INDICATIONS.

From an outlook that was considerably above the average on May 1, the condition of all crops has materially declined. A dry period of weather during the first three weeks of May is the chief factor in this change. With the exception of wheat, rye and alfalfa, all of the leading crops are below the ten-year average for Michigan. Rains during the closing week broke the drought in many sections and are improving the outlook.

The wheat crop has lost five points in condition during the last month, although it is still nine per cent above for a crop of 15,513,000 bushels. The ten-year average is the forecast in condition of fields varies widely in the same locality, some being very poor and others good. The crop has headed early and the straw is relatively short in many sections. The harvest will probably be two weeks earlier than in any recent year.

There has been a further marked decline in the acreage devoted to spring wheat. The poor yield and quality last year discouraged many from sowing, and the acreage is estimated at 29,000 as compared with 48,000 last year. The present condition of 83 per cent forecasts a crop of 433,000 bushels.

A crop of 11,573,000 bushels of oats is indicated by the June 1 condition of 81 per cent. The acreage is one per cent less than last year.

Eight per cent less barley was planted than last year. Almost continuous rains during sowing time prevented sowing until too late. This wet period, being followed by very dry weather, caused the ground to become crusted except where well-drained, and reduced the condition to 82 per cent, or eight per cent below that of last year on June 1 and eight per cent below the ten-year average.

Rye lost five points in condition during the month of May, but is still one point above the ten-year average. The present outlook is for a crop of 9,592,000 bushels.

Hay suffered the most severely of any crop from drought during May, losing 19 per cent in condition and reducing the prospective crop by approximately 300,000 tons. The present condition of 76 per cent is ten per cent below the ten-year average, and the forecast of production is 3,194,000 tons. It is estimated that there is eight per cent more acreage of clover hay than last year.

The condition of pastures is 87 per cent as compared with 94 per cent on May 1, and 91 per cent, the ten year average. Recent rains are reviving them.

Reports relative to sugar beets indicate a condition of 88 per cent which is the average for that crop on June 1.

The average condition of apples is lowest in the southern counties and 52 per cent. In general, the condition improves gradually toward the north. It is also somewhat better in the southwestern than in other sections of southern Michigan. The upper peninsula reports 55 per cent of a crop; the northwest district, 70 per cent; the west-central, 64 per cent; and the southwest, 48 per cent. The south-central, east-central and southeastern counties vary from 30 to 50 per cent.

The present outlook for peaches is 27 per cent of a crop. As is usual where freezing has materially affected the crop, the condition varies widely. Some orchards will produce no fruit, others will have partial crops and in some favored spots a fairly good yield is promised.

The outlook for pears is better than expected earlier in the season, being 45 per cent of a crop. Berrien County, which has more than one-half of the bearing acreage of the state, reports 40 per cent. As in the case of other fruits the condition improves northward.

There will be but very few cherries in southern Michigan. The Grand Traverse region reports very spotty conditions with an average prospect of a little more than one-half of a crop. The Oceana and Mason County district will have about one-fourth of a crop.

Plums are about 30 per cent of a crop. Strawberries have been improved by the rains and show an average of 64 per cent. Blackberries and raspberries give the best promise of all the fruits, 89 per cent.

## OBITUARY

Mary S., daughter of Lemuel L. and Orinda (Damon) Knapp was born in Fulton Co., Ohio, November 28, 1856, and died in Alma, June 6, 1921, at the home of her only daughter, Mrs. W. U. Barnes.

When a child she came with her parents to Michigan and settled in Berrien County. There, on March 2, 1876, she was united in marriage to N. E. Doane of that state. To this union were born three children, Linnie E. (Mrs. Ural Barnes), and two sons Gene J. and Virgil G., both living in Gladwin, Mich. Besides her husband and children she left five grandchildren, one great granddaughter, two brothers and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

She has been a resident of Gratiot County since 1887. In early life she united with the Church of Christ at Millburg, Mich., and ever rejoiced in the love of her Saviour. Funeral services were held at the M. E. church at Breckenridge, conducted by J. F. Williams, pastor of the Christian church at Alma. Interment was made in the Breckenridge cemetery.

## ELWELL

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Medler were Alma callers Tuesday.

The Lady Macraebs attended a meeting at Forest Hill Thursday.

Wm. Wixson of Elm Hall was a caller here Saturday.

Mrs. Geo. Taylor is reported no better.

L. P. Taylor was a business caller in Alma Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Olmstead and son, Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Law and little daughters, Betty and Phyllis, returned last week from Mantor where they have been spending their vacation trout fishing and visiting with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mallory and grandson, Bobby, and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hutchinson were in Alma Tuesday.

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## Farm Economics Meet at M. A. C.

East Lansing, June 26.—An agricultural and economics conference, at which leading authorities of the country will discuss and consider vital agricultural questions of the day, has been scheduled at the Michigan Agricultural College for June 22 and 23.

David Friday, of the University of Michigan; Thomas Nixon Carver, famous economist from Harvard University; Dr. G. F. Warren of Cornell; Hale Tamm, marketing specialist of the M. A. C. Extension Division; and Dr. Eben Monroe, Leader of Michigan County Agents, will be among the headliners on the list of speakers. Important phases of present agricultural problems relating to the economic side of the industry will be taken up.

The agricultural meeting will be one of five important conferences to be held at the college in connection with the Summer Session, which opens on June 26. The other conferences include: Seventh Annual Conference for Ministers and Laymen, June 30-July 1; Sixth Annual Conference of Boys and Girls Club Leaders, June 20-25; Conference on Rural School Consolidation, June 23-25; Conference of Michigan Teachers of Agriculture, July 18-22.

## SUMNER

Howard Conklin was a Carson City caller Monday.

Several men and their teams gathered at the cemetery Monday and removed the drive way and did quite an amount of other repair work which was very much needed.

Mrs. Edna Seaman has returned from her visit in Abra.

Charles Booth of Alma was here on business Monday.

Wm. Estep of Greenville was here on business Tuesday.

Mrs. S. Cleverdon and Miss Marion Hale motored to Big Rapids Wednesday morning returning in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bella Lance and children of St. Johns visited relatives here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Rehman of Alma visited relatives here Thursday.

Miss Esther Summers has returned home after spending the winter with her grandparents at Smyrna.

Miss Alma Payne is visiting relatives and friends in Maple Rapids this week.

Mrs. Edna Seaman has returned from spending the week with her daughter.

Mrs. Tom Stratton of Stanton is spending a few days with friends here.

Miss Nellie Steughton and Vance Woodard were in Ithaca on business Thursday.

Allie Cleverdon has returned to Big Rapids after spending a few days with his parents.

Olen Fergis and the Cleverdon family attended the commencement exercises at Major's Rapids Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherd Simons were week end guests of their sister, Mrs. H. Church.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Cooley have opened an ice cream parlor here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ola Houghton of Westphalia motored here Sunday to visit their aunt, Mrs. Pratt.

Mrs. I. O. Hunt entertained her son of Columbus, Ohio, last week.

Wm. Johnson and family and Hauck were Crystal visitors Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whiting and daughter of Grand Rapids visited at the home of her sister, Mrs. H. Church Sunday and Monday.

Bern Stever and mother motored to Mt. Alma Saturday to spend Sunday with relatives.

Mrs. Nellie Nickerson was home from Mt. Pleasant over the week end.

Dr. Barb was called here on professional business Saturday.

Rev. Coffey delivered a fine I. O. O. F. Memorial address Sunday. The lodge decorated their deceased brother graves at Ferris, Spencer and Summit cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Tucker entertained E. J. Tucker and wife, Harold McKinstry and Fred Heutley of Alma Sunday.

A. J. Mulford, wife, and daughter, Anna Lee, of Maple Rapids spent Sunday with friends and relatives.

A. E. Fowler and wife have returned from a very pleasant fishing trip to the upper peninsula.

Mrs. Chas. Conner is spending a few days with her friend, Mrs. Lizzie Ferquer.

Tyle Blair was in Mt. Pleasant with friends Sunday.

Mrs. Dougherty and son has returned from Alma after spending a few days with relatives.

Miss Sylph Jones left for Flint Monday morning.

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